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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/526,198	10/24/2005	Johannes Kostner	AT 020057	7066
7590	09/17/2008		EXAMINER	
Corporate Patent Counsel			ALIE, GHASSEM	
Philips Electronics North America Corporation				
P O Box 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510			3724	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/17/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>		<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
10/526,198		KOSTNER ET AL.	
<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>		
GHASSEM ALIE	3724		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05/27/08.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 5-7 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s)       is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s)       is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 5-7 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s)       is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s)       are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.      .  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/0256/06)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date      

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date      

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other:

***Specification***

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phrasology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet apart from any other text.

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities. The specification does not contain section headings. It should be noted that each section of the specification should have section headings. Each heading should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type. See arrangement and contain of the specification in MPEP 601 (I).

***Claim Objections***

4. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: "a spring of a U-shaped configuration that is connected to the main part in the region of its cross-member and that co-operating with at least one positioning extension connected to the main part" should be --a spring of a U-shaped configuration has a cross-member connected to the main part and two sides co-operating with at least one positioning extension connected to the main part--. In

claim 7, “the head part is pivotable the spring” should be --the head part is pivotable by the spring--. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Regarding claim 1, “a spring of a U-shaped configuration that is connected to the main part in the region of its cross-member and that co-operating with at least one positioning extension connected to the main part” is confusing. It should be noted that the U-shaped spring is connected to the head part and the main part. The cross-member of the U-shaped spring is connected to the head part, instead of the main part.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 5-7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Amendment***

8. Applicant's arguments filed on 05/27/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that the U-shaped spring 55 is connected to the head part 3 in the region of its cross-member 56 as clearly shown in Fig. 3. Examiner agrees with the applicant statement and the specification of the instant application that the U-shaped spring 55 is

connected to the head part 3 of the hair clipper in the region of the cross-member 56 of the spring. However, claim 1 recites, “a spring of a U-shaped configuration that is connected to the main part in the region of its cross-member.” Claim 1 clearly calls for a U-shaped spring that is connected to a main part of the personal care apparatus in the region of its cross-member 56; instead of a U-shaped spring that is connected to a head part of the personal care apparatus in the region of its cross-member 56 as clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the instant application.

***Conclusion***

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ghassem Alic whose telephone number is (571) 272-4501. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on (571) 272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, SEE <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Ghassem Alie/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3724

September 12, 2008